

Van Meter News

NOVEMBER 2016

Happy Veterans Day!



Elected Officials:

Mayor-Allan Adams

Council-

-Kim Sacker, Mayor Pro Tem

-Lyn Lyon

-Mike Peterson

-Owen Stump

-Beth Tweed

City Staff:

Jake Anderson-
City Administrator

Liz Thompson-Clerk

Dave Herman-
Public Works

Alex Brayton -
Parks & Rec Coordinator

Dorothy Knight-Librarian

Bill Daggett-
Chief of Police

Erik Faust-Police Officer

Jon Bruen-Fire Chief

Dallas County
Non-emergency -
515-993-4567

City Hall—515-996-2644

Library—515-996-2453

**Visit our website at
www.vanmeteria.gov**

NOVEMBER 2016 GENERAL ELECTION

NEWS RELEASE

RELEASE DATE: October 18, 2016

CONTACT: Kim Owen, Dallas County Elections Deputy

RE: Election facts

Election Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2016

Poll Hours: 7 am to 9 pm

Voter Eligibility Requirements

To Vote in the General Election an individual must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age, not currently judged by a court to be "incompetent to vote," and not convicted of a felony (or have received a restoration of rights).

Voter Registration

The deadline to register to vote is 5 pm on Saturday, October 29, 2016. The Dallas County Auditor's Office will be open on Saturday, October 29, 2016 from 8 am to 5 pm.

New voters can also register on Election Day at the polling place for the precinct in which they currently reside. The voter will be required to show proof of residency and identity. One form of ID is a valid Iowa Driver's license with the voter's current address. Hard copy proof of residency (electronic copies are unacceptable) can be accomplished with:

Property tax statement

Utility bill

Bank Statement

Paycheck

Government check

Other government document

A current photo ID which is valid and contains an expiration date can be used for proof of identity. Among valid documents are:

Out-of-state driver's license



Cont. on page 2

Cont. from page 1

Non-driver identification card

US passport

US military ID

ID card issued by employer

Iowa high school or college ID

Where to Pre-Register

The Dallas County Auditor's Office, 210 N 10th Street, Adel, IA on weekdays between the hours of 8 am and 4:30 pm from now through October 28 and Saturday, October 29 from 8 am to 5 pm.

Registration forms can also be found on the Dallas County Web site www.co.dallas.ia.us/government/auditor/register-to-vote or at the Web site of the Iowa Secretary of State at www.sos.state.ia.us. Mail forms to: Dallas County Auditor's Office, 210 N 10th Street, Adel, IA 50003.

Registration Changes

Name, party, and address changes within Dallas County may be made any time up to and including Election Day. Prior to Election Day, changes are made by the same means as voter registration. On Election Day, changes may be made at the voters' polling place. If the voter has changed their address, the voter will need to go to the voter's new polling site.

Absentee Voting

Absentee votes may be cast at the Dallas County Auditor's Office from September 29 through November 7, the day prior to the election. The Dallas County Election office will be open on both Saturday, October 29 and Saturday, November 5 for absentee voting from 8 am to 5 pm. Request forms for absentee ballots may be obtained at the Dallas County Auditor's Office or on the Dallas County Web site at www.co.dallas.ia.us/government/auditor/get-an-absentee-ballot.

All requests for ballots to be mailed must be received by 5 pm Friday, November 4. Completed absentee ballots must be post-marked by midnight the day prior to the election (November 7) or may be delivered to the Dallas County Auditor's Office before the polls close (9 pm) on Election Day.

For more information about the 2016 General Election contact the Dallas County Auditor's office at 515-993-6914 or at www.co.dallas.ia.us/government/auditor/elections.

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!



Vote at the Veterans Reception Center.



**Polls will be open on Tuesday,
November 8th, from 7a - 9p**



NOTICE OF SEWER CLEANING

You are hereby notified that the City of Van Meter will be cleaning the sewer mains south of Elm Street the week of **November 7-11, 2016**. If your sewer connection is not properly vented it is recommended that you place a towel over the toilet bowl and put the lid down.

The area of town where the sewer cleaning will occur is illustrated on the image below.



THANK YOU CHAD!

Chad Gillespie resigned from the Van Meter Public Works Department in order to take a position with the City of West Des Moines. Chad worked for the City of Van Meter for seven years. In those years he served our community well.

We congratulate Chad on his new position and wish him all the best with his new job!



HELPFUL HINTS FROM MIDAMERICAN

Do you need help paying your energy bill?

LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for eligible customers to help with home heating and weatherization needs through the cold winter months. The application periods have started, visit www.midamericanenergy.com for times and locations for your area.



**Submit Streetlight Repair Request—
visit: www.midamericanenergy.com/**

1. **GET A SENSOR:** During cold weather, your furnace will be running and your windows will be closed, so you should install a carbon monoxide detector near your home's bedrooms.
2. **SERVICE FURNACE:** Before the heating season, a qualified heating technician should service your furnace to ensure that it will operate safely and efficiently.
3. **CHECK THE CHIMNEY:** Inspect your chimney to make sure it is unobstructed. Because many furnaces vent into the chimney, it must be free of debris to allow products of combustion to vent to the outside atmosphere. If you will be burning wood in a fireplace, have the chimney inspected to make sure it is in good condition and free of creosote buildup.
4. **CLEAR THE AREA:** Make sure the area around your furnace is clear for good air circulation. Keep all flammable materials, such as clothing, cardboard boxes, paint thinners, fuels and solvents, far away from the furnace.
5. **NEVER HEAT WITH AN OVEN:** On chilly autumn mornings, avoid the temptation to warm the kitchen with a gas range or an open oven door. The unvented products of combustion can quickly build to toxic levels.
6. **WATCH SPACE HEATERS:** Be cautious with portable heaters or space heaters, making sure to follow manufacturer instructions for safe venting and use. Place them at least three feet away from any combustibles, such as wallpaper, bedding, draperies, clothing and furniture. Never leave them operating when you are away from the room or asleep. Don't leave children or pets unattended with space heaters, and never use them to dry clothing, shoes or mittens.
7. **LOOK UP:** When cleaning gutters, installing storm windows, picking apples, or harvesting fall crops, avoid overhead power lines. Before you work, look up from your work area to inspect for overhead power lines. Then make sure to stay clear of electrical lines when working with ladders, pruning poles, tractors, grain augers, equipment with antennas, etc.
8. **STAY ABOARD:** If your tractor or other moving equipment contacts an overhead power line, stay on the vehicle, and get someone to contact MidAmerican immediately to remove the danger. Stepping away from the vehicle can cause you to become the path for the electricity to follow and result in electrocution.
9. **DIAL BEFORE DIGGING:** Anytime you plan to dig, whether as part of a construction job or homeowner project (such as putting up a fence or basketball hoop, planting trees or shrubs, installing a pool, building a home addition, deck, etc.) please call your state's one-call system at least 48 hours prior to the excavation — it's a free service and it is the law. In all states, call 811 to reach the One Call Center. One Call Center representatives will contact MidAmerican Energy locators, and MidAmerican Energy will mark any underground gas and electric facilities we own within 48 hours of your call. Customer-owned wires and piping, including those running to grills, yard lights or outbuildings will not be marked. The services of a plumbing and heating dealer or qualified private contractor should be sought for locating customer-owned gas piping or electric lines.
10. **LIGHT FOR SAFETY:** As days grow short, make sure outdoor lighting is in good working order. Good lighting can protect you against crime and falls or accidents caused by darkness. Inspect fixtures and outlets for weather damage and replace burnt-out bulbs.



Agreement For Preauthorized Payments

To sign up for AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL, please complete the form below and mail or bring to City Hall along with a VOIDED CHECK from your financial institution.

I (we) hereby authorize the CITY OF VAN METER to initiate debit entries to my (our) checking account indicated below and the depository named below, hereinafter called DEPOSITORY, to debit the same to such account.

DEPOSITORY NAME _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TRANSIT ABA NO. _____ ACCOUNT NO. _____

(Transit ABA Number is the first 9 numbers from left on the bottom of your check)

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until the City of Van Meter and Depository have received written notification from me (either of us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford the City of Van Meter and Depository a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

NAME(s) (*print*) _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

****You will receive your water bill on or near the first of the month as usual. The amount due will be deducted from the above assigned account on the 15th of each month.****

You can also view your account and pay on-line. Please follow the link:

Internet URL: <http://198.40.226.118/InternetPayments/>

CITY OF VAN METER

310 Mill Street

PO Box 160

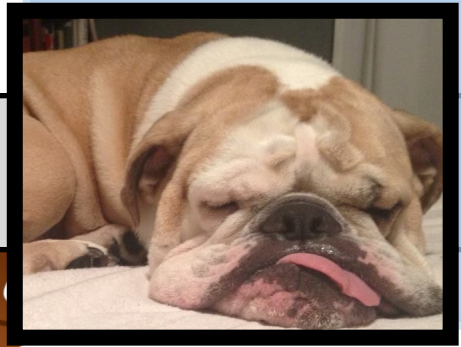
Van Meter, IA 50261

Phone: 515-996-2644

Email: info@vanmeteria.gov



**Fall Back
November 6th**



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

City offices will be closed

Thursday, November 24TH and

Friday, November 25TH—

for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Please leave any messages or payments
in the mail slot in the front door.

Visit our website for general information
www.vanmeteria.gov.

YARD WASTE REMINDERS

Yard Waste will be collected the same day as your trash. Kraft-style biodegradable wet strength paper bags less than 50lbs. NO PLASTIC BAGS.

Acceptable items include: Plant material, Grass, Leaves, Weeds, Plant and tree trimmings, Houseplants (no pots), Small amounts of sod (less than 60 pounds), Branches and twigs (up to 4 inches in diameter and 4 feet long). Twigs and small branches may also be in securely tied bundles.



WASTE CONNECTIONS INC.
Connect with the Future®

515-265-7374

**Recycling Schedule—
NOVEMBER 2016:
November 14 and 28**

Kids Shopping Day: Saturday, December 10th, 8am—11am at Van Meter United Methodist Church

Kid's Shopping Day is a long-standing tradition at the Van Meter UMC and this year the VM Baptist Church is joining in to help support our local families over the holidays!

Kids come to the VM United Methodist Church to shop for Christmas presents for their family members at garage sale prices. Parents stay hidden so they don't ruin the surprise. Volunteers are there to help the kids shop and wrap the presents. Mark it on your calendar today!

All proceeds support our local families over the holidays.

Donations are needed:

- * Gently used or new gift items (no clothes please). For example, knick-knacks, toys and games, men's items, etc.
- * Wrapping paper, gift bags, bows, ribbon, boxes
- * Monetary donations are welcome

Drop off at either the Van Meter Methodist Church or the Van Meter Baptist Church.

Methodist Church contact: Suzy Lowman,
slowman745@wildblue.net, 515-577-2632
Baptist Church contact: Debby Walters,
debbyinvanmeter@gmail.com, 515-996-2816



**YARD WASTE COLLECTION
April 1—November 30**